

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: TGEN TECH JA

SUBJ: PENDING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION ISSUES

WITH JAPAN

1. IN DISCUSSION WITH SCICOUNS, KIKUCHI, HEAD, INTERNATIONAL
AFFAIRS DIVISION, PROMOTION BUREAU OF STA, PROVIDING FOLLOWING VIEWS
ON PENDING SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION ISSUES:

A) ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT AGREEMENT - THE THREE
CONCERNED GOJ AGENCIES: I.E., MOFA, MITI, AND STA, ARE DETERMINED
THAT GOJ WILL NOT "FAIL" IN REACHING AGREEMENT ON THIS MATTER, AS
THEY DID ON ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUE. KIKUCHI STATED JAPANESE APPROACH
TO RESOLUTION OF "POINT OF COORDINATION" ISSUE IS TO PROPOSE ITS
DELETION, A STEP WHICH HE IMPLIED WILL BE TAKEN SHORTLY. HE DID NOT
RULE OUT, HOWEVER, THAT PROVISION CALLING FOR "POINT OF COORDIN-
ATION" COULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOJ IF US PROVIDED EXPLANATION
THAT "POINT OF COORDINATION" REFERRED EXCLUSIVELY TO EXTERNAL
ACTIVITIES UNDER AGREEMENT, AND NOT TO INTERNAL COORDINATION OF
JAPANESE R&D PROGRAM, A POINT WHICH HE CLAIMS IS MISUNDERSTOOD IN
GOJ. INCLUSION IN LETTERS IDENTIFYING RESPECTIVE POINTS OF
COORDINATION OF OTHER AGENCIES TO BE INVOLVED IN IMPLEMENTATION
OF AGREEMENT AND THEIR ROLES COULD ALSO BE HOPEFUL. KIKUCHI DID
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NOT RULE OUT SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT DURING GOVERNOR LOVE'S

NOV 5-7 VISIT.

B) ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT - AS IMPLIED ABOVE, ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT IS CLOSE TO DEAD LETTER IN GOJ, AND CAN PROBABLY BE REVIEWED, IF AT ALL, ONLY BY FURTHER US INITIATIVE AND ELIMINATION OF "POINT OF COORDINATION" REQUIREMENT. KIKUCHI NOTED THAT CO-ORDINATION ISSUE HAD NOT ARISEN IN CASE OF EITHER JUST SIGNED JAPAN-SOVIET S&T AGREEMENT, OR IN FORTHCOMING JAPAN-GERMAN S&T AGREEMENT (WHICH NOW BEING NEGOTIATED ON BASIS OF GERMAN DRAFT), SINCE NEITHER SOVIETS NOR GERMANS HAD PROPOSED "POINT OF COORDINATION." HE CONTENDED, HOWEVER, THAT, EVEN IF PROPOSED, POINT OF COORDINATION UNDER THESE BROAD AGREEMENTS WOULD NOT HAVE PRESENTED MAJOR PROBLEM, SINCE DIVERSITY OF SUBJECT MATTER WOULD HAVE MADE STA LOGICAL COORDINATING AGENCY. DIFFICULTY IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND R&D AGREEMENTS IS THAT SINGLE AGENCIES HAVE MAJOR OPERATING RESPONSIBILITY (ENVIRONMENT AGENCY IN CASE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AGREEMENT AND MITI IN CASE OF ENERGY R&D), BUT OTHER AGENCIES WITH PART OF ACTION UNWILLING TO AGREE TO COORDINATION BY ANOTHER GROUP.

C) BLUE RIBBON REVIEW - KIKUCHI IS OPTIMISTIC OVER PROSPECTS OF BLUE RIBBON REVIEW TAKING PLACE. (STA IS PROBABLY A MINORITY OF ONE IN THIS CASE, SINCE STA BELIEVES REVIEW WILL STRENGTHEN THEIR COORDINATING ROLE OVER CURRENTLY HIGHLY FRAGMENTED US-JAPAN SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION.) HE BELIEVES THAT KEY TO AGREEMENT ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR REVIEW IS US AGREEMENT TO A REVIEW PANEL OF SUFFICIENT SIZE TO ALLOW REPRESENTATION BY ALL CONCERNED JAPANESE AGENCIES. SPECIFICALLY, HE IDENTIFIED MOFA, STA, MITI, HEALTH AND WELFARE, ENVIRONMENT AGENCY, AND AGRICULTURE AS MINIMUM COMPOSITION OF JAPANESE COMPONENT OF REVIEW PANEL, WITH ONE OR TWO OTHER PLACES BEING RESERVED FOR OUTSIDE EXPERTS.

2. IN OTHER COMMENTS, KIKUCHI STATED THAT JAPAN-SOVIET AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL COOPERATION SIGNED DURING TANAKA VISIT TO MOSCOW WAS "POLITICAL" AND STA NOW HAD RESPONSIBILITY TO DECIDE HOW TO IMPLEMENT IT. JAPANESE VERSION OF AGREEMENT BEING MADE AVAILABLE TO EMBASSY, AND WILL BE POUCHED FOLLOWING TRANSLATION.
INGERSOLL

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